



## SENATOR JOSÉ MENÉNDEZ DISTRICT 26

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### **Statement by Senator Menéndez on Announcement of UT Regents Finalist for President of UT San Antonio**

**San Antonio, Texas** - State Senator José Menéndez has released a statement in response to the announcement by the University of Texas System Board of Regents naming T. Taylor Eighmy, Ph.D., as the sole finalist for the presidency of The University of Texas at San Antonio. This selection was made by unanimous vote during a special board meeting held Friday, June 30.

*The following quote is attributed to Senator José Menéndez:*

“While I congratulate Dr. Eighmy on his selection to lead UTSA, I am dismayed at the lack of transparency or consideration for a Latino(a) candidates. If Dr. Eighmy remains in this post past a required 21-day period after his selection, none of the nine UT System campuses will be led by a Latino(a). In a county that is 60 percent Latino(a), and a University that had an enrollment of 51 percent Latino(a) in 2016, that is unacceptable. Just two Latinos served on the sixteen member selection committee and no public vetting process or open forums were held to evaluate the candidates. We will not let that stand. The students and taxpayers of San Antonio deserve some answers. My office will be submitting an inquiry to the UT system to explain the selection process for the head of this public university and what consideration it gave to an applicant pool that better reflects the community served by its campus.”

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